REMARKS

The specification is amended above to insert a reference to related cases.

Claims 5 and 8 have been amended to remove multiple dependent claims.

Claim 15 has been cancelled without prejudice.

No amendment of inventorship is necessitated by these amendments.

Early allowance of the claims is requested. Should the Examiner believe that a conference with applicants' attorney would advance prosecution of this application, he is respectfully invited to call applicants' attorney.

Respectfully submitted

Dated: December 16, 2004

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